

MINUTES  
New Holland Borough Council  
August 1, 2023

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in Borough Hall. Members present were: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Patrick K. Morgan, John A. Styer, Bryant J. Glick and Michael H. Kurtz. Members absent were Michael N. Martin and Harry M. Klinger. Also present were Manager/ Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor M. Timothy Bender, Police Chief Bill Leighty, Acting Detective Josh Bitner and reporter Carole C. Deck. Others in attendance included Borough water consultant Jeff Bologa of Becker Engineering, and Borough residents including John Taylor, Bill Kassinger, Jonathan Brown, Rebekah Brown, Bill Clisham, Henry Smeltz, Sheila Smeltz and Lino Vescovich who is also recognized as the ELANCO Library's representative to Council.

President Herrington opened the meeting, asking for action on the Minutes of the previous meeting.

Bryant Glick made the motion that the Minutes of Council's meeting of July 3, 2023, be approved as presented. This was seconded by John Styer and passed.

Patrick Morgan made the motion that the monthly Financial Report be accepted and the bills paid as prepared. This was seconded by Mike Kurtz and passed. Member Styer abstained to avoid any appearance of conflict with any business he may own.

Police Chief Leighty then reviewed his monthly Summary Report. There was a total of 129 incidents for the month. This total contained eight felonies or misdemeanors and eight summary offenses. There were five accidents in the Borough of which two were reportable. There were 19 citations and 18 warnings. The one juvenile contact was referred to Juvenile court. The outline of community activities is noted on page five. Two exceptional efforts by officers the past month should be noted. Acting Detective Bitner played an extensive roll in an investigation with the FBI, the Food and Drug Administration and other agencies which led to charges against seven persons conducting fraud schemes, particularly against the elderly. The total loss to the victims was over \$11 million. It involved charges from persons in the states of Florida, New York and Michigan. A second significant activity was during a routine patrol, officer Kirk Wolfe came upon and pursued persons in the New Holland Ford-Toyota lot attempting to steal catalytic

converters. They were not arrested that evening but significant evidence was able to be obtained as to those involved.

Police Committee member Morgan requested the Chief to be sure those officers are aware of Council's appreciation for their diligent efforts. He next noted that three members of Council had the opportunity to interview a person qualified, available and willing to work on a part-time basis in the Police Department. Background and references have been checked thoroughly. The person has over 22 years with the city of Lancaster; 17 as a detective. The applicant's name is Heather Halstead.

Chief Leighty stated he supports the hiring of the applicant as a part-time officer. She has accepted the Borough's offer of \$37.95 per hour.

Patrick Morgan then made the motion that Heather Halstead be hired as a part-time officer for the Police Department at the starting rate as noted by the Chief. This was seconded by Mike Kurtz and passed.

Streets Chairman Kurtz made the motion that the Municipal Snow and Ice Removal Agreement between PennDOT and the Borough for the 2023/2024 season, be approved as presented by PennDOT; this is in the amount of \$9,794.24. This was seconded by Bryant Glick and passed.

There were no Personnel, Property, Water or Wastewater action items.

Mayor Bender reported the monies received through the Police Department the past month as: \$563.25 from the District Justice's office; \$200 from alarm fees; \$75 from fingerprinting; and \$45 from accident reports. He echoes Council's appreciation to the two officers involved with the special criminal activities the past month. He also supports and appreciates Council's action to hire the part-time officer.

Manager Fulcher reported that this was the final week for the Aaron's Acres summer camp use of Community Memorial Park. Things again went well, though there was a minor accident with one of their participants at the pool. A follow up end of season meeting will be held with them.

Lino Vescovich noted some of the highlights of the happenings at the ELANCO Library for August. Along with the award in June of a "Silver Star" designation under the State's Civic and Social Literacy PA Forward program, the Library is pleased to note it was awarded another "Silver Star" designation under the PA

Forward Star Library Program in July under the state's Basic Literacy Forward Program. They continue to work towards earning the Silver Stars in the remaining programs of Financial Literacy, Health Literacy and Information Literacy. On Saturday, August 12, they are holding the Summer Reading Wrap Up Party from noon to 2 p.m. Other information and events can be found on the Library's website: [www.elancolibrary.com](http://www.elancolibrary.com).

Resident John Taylor inquired about the status of things with Eagle Disposal and its trash, recycling and other services for the Borough.

President Herrington stated the Borough has been communicating with them regularly trying to maintain its due diligence as to recognizing the issues while still trying to maintain a good level of service. It appears that the Borough's service has been much better than those in many townships. The Borough's program also retains the option that if the resident prefers, they may opt-out and go to a different provider. Council has had Eagle representatives at a couple of its regular meetings this year and was informed of Eagle's continuing efforts to employ more drivers.

Member Kurtz noted that in reading various articles in the newspaper this is not just an isolated problem in this area for the industry.

Member Morgan stated that in his reviewing of the service contract between Eagle and the Borough, it is not widely known by our customers but Eagle has 48 hours to complete its collection responsibilities.

Manager Fulcher added that the Borough is in discussions with Eagle about potential modifications to the current schedule for recyclables, red tag collections and possibly yard waste. These possible changes should save the Borough some money under the program as well as reduce the demand on driver availability.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

September 5, 2023

Date Approved